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• **Javadi, Shervin**
San Jose California 95134 (US)
• **Vrane, David R.**
San Jose, California 95112 (US)

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(71) Applicant: **Becton Dickinson and Company**
Franklin Lakes, New Jersey 07417-1880 (US)

(74) Representative:
Weber, Thomas, Dr.Dipl.-Chem. et al
Patentanwälte
von Kreisler-Selting-Werner,
Postfach 10 22 41
50462 Köln (DE)

(72) Inventors:
• **Norton, Pierce**
Morgan Hill California 95037 (US)

(54) **Fixed mounted sorting cuvette with user replaceable nozzle**

(57) A flow cell and flow cytometer in which a nozzle at the end of a flow channel is disposed on a removable substrate held at a registered location on a flow cell. Other elements including illumination optics, light collection optics, and the flow cell may then be positioned at fixed locations and would not require subsequent periodic adjustment. The registered location for positioning the nozzle allows removal and replacement of the nozzle key with the nozzle subsequently positioned in the identical location.

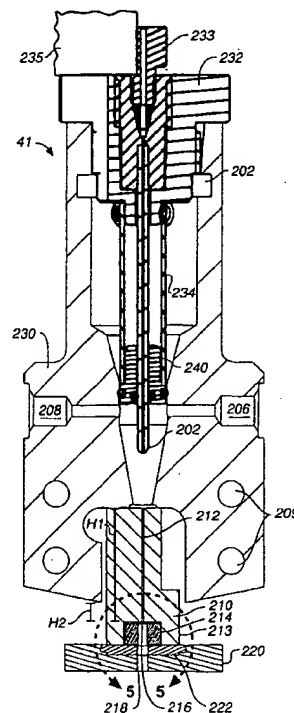


FIG. 3

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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

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EP 03 02 0445

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The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search MUNICH		Date of completion of the search 12 February 2004	Examiner Bravin, M
<p>CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS</p> <p>X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document</p> <p>T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons</p> <p>& : member of the same patent family, corresponding document</p>			

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**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
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